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Consensual Poverty in Benin

Shailen Nandy

Townsend Centre for International Poverty Research
School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol (UK)

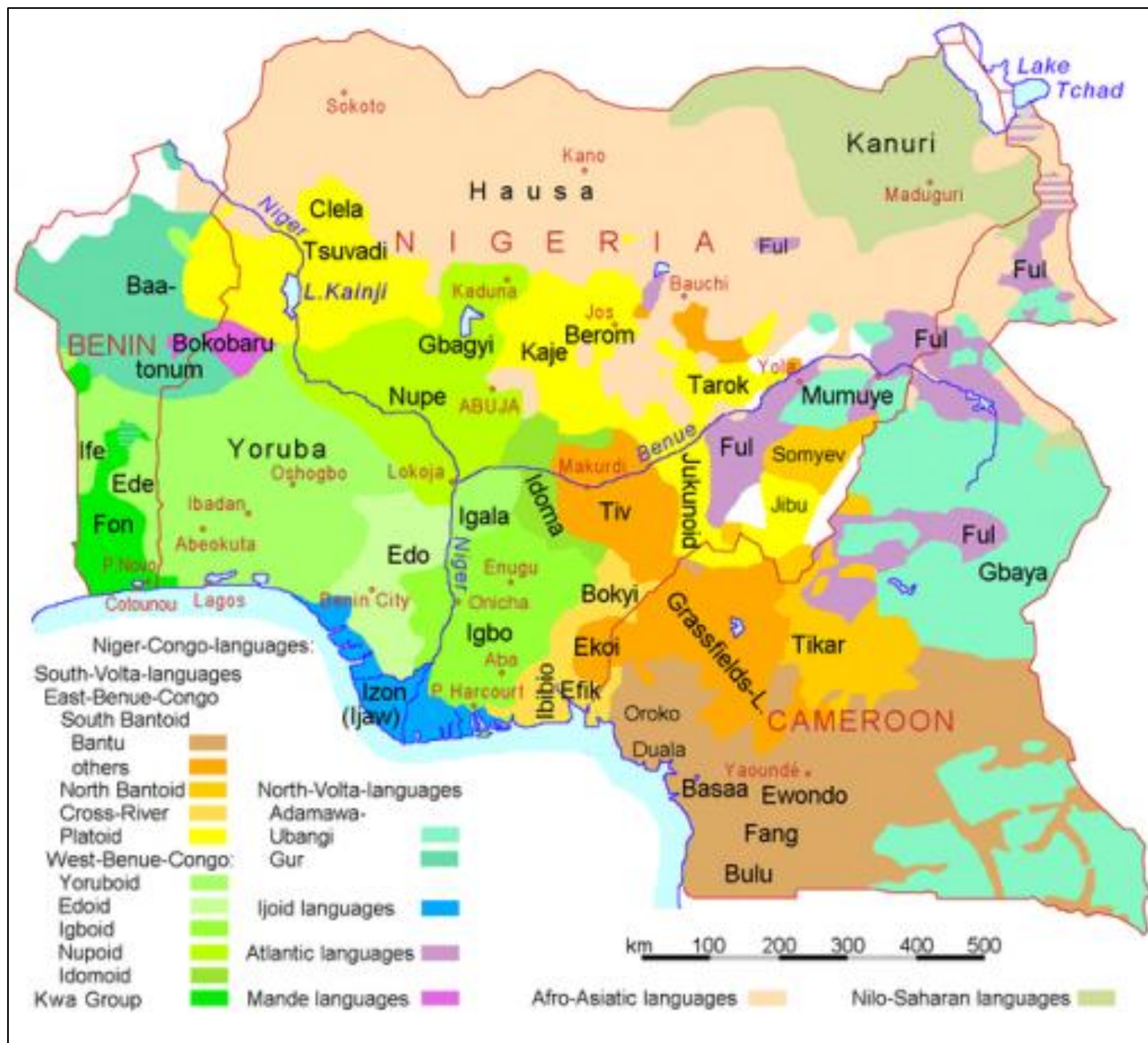
Email: s.nandy@bristol.ac.uk

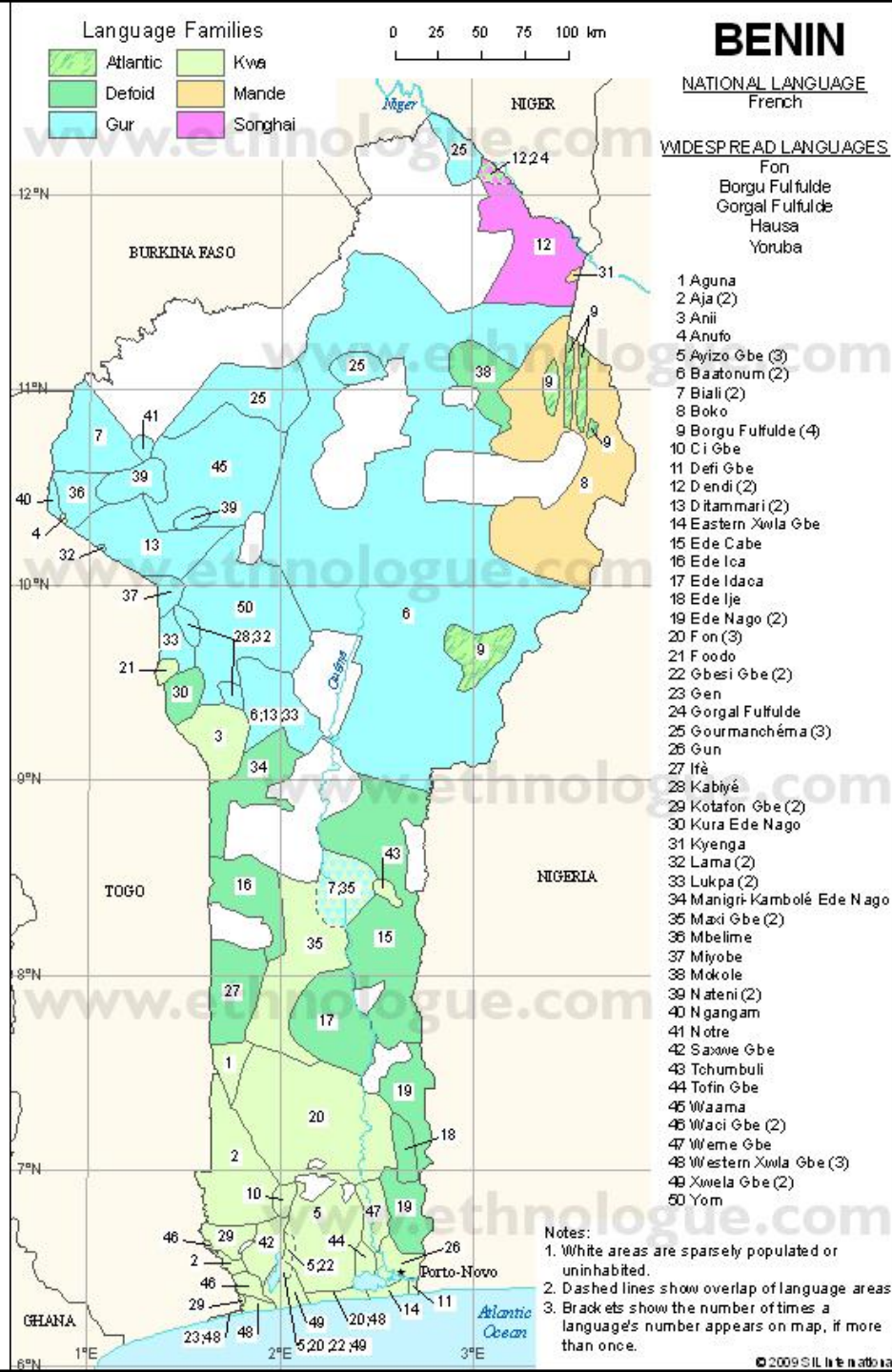
Colloquium on Defining and Measuring Poverty in Heterogeneous Societies
Human Sciences Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa
28th November 2012

Benin

	2008	2012
Population	8.4 million	8.8 million
Population growth	3.1% p.a.	2.8 % p.a.
Life expectancy	55 years	55 years
Urban population	40%	42%
HDI rank of 187	163 (out of 177)	167 (out of 187)
Population living on <\$2/day	73%	75%
Gini Index	36.5	38.6
Aid per capita (\$)	41.5	76.4

Ethno-linguistic differences...

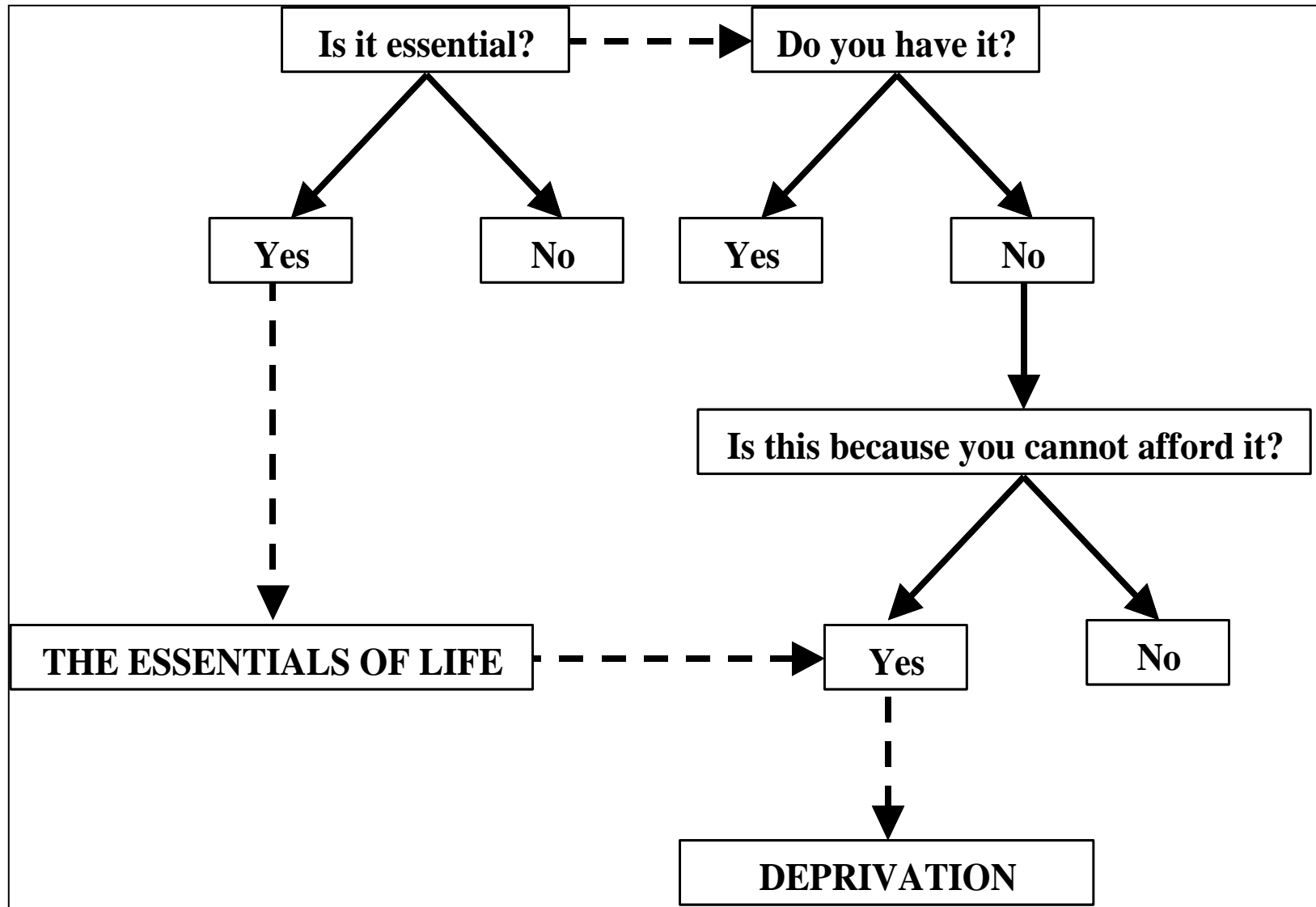




		National (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	N			National (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	N	
Age group	16-24	10	12	9	1,737	Education	No education	58	39	71	10,022	
	25-34	30	32	28	5,170		Primary	24	28	20	4,075	
	35-44	23	23	22	3,957		Secondary 1	10	16	6	1,749	
	45-54	16	16	17	2,864		Secondary 2	5	10	2	898	
	55-64	10	9	11	1,807		Higher	3	6	0	494	
	65+	11	8	12	1,857		Total	100	100	100	17,238	
	Total	100	100	100	17,391		Never married	9	13	6	1,527	
Sex	Male	60	55	64	10,483	Marital status	Married	79	74	82	13,611	
	Female	40	45	36	6,913		Live together	1	1	0	93	
	Total	100	100	100	17,396		Widowed	9	8	9	1,487	
							Divorced	3	4	3	511	
Religion	Traditional (Vodoun)	20	8	27	3,420	Total	100	100	100	17,229		
	Other Traditional	2	2	3	421		Migrant status	Non-migrant	53	39	62	9,123
	Islam	20	22	18	3,470			Returned migrant	18	15	19	3,038
	Catholic	30	41	22	5,168			Other migrant	30	46	19	5,192
	Protestant Methodist	4	4	3	625	Total		100	100	100	17,352	
	Other Protestant	3	3	3	520		Details of respondents to poverty module, Benin DHS 2006					
	Celeste	6	5	7	1,093							
	Other Christian	9	9	8	1,505							
	Other Religion	1	1	1	247							
	No religion	5	4	6	915							
	Total	100	100	100	17,384							
	Ethnicity	Adja and related	17	15	18	2,957						
Bariba and related		7	6	7	1,138							
Dendi and related		3	3	2	457							
Fon and related		47	47	47	8,174							
Yoa & Lokpa related		3	2	3	502							
Betamari and related		5	5	6	921							
Peulh and related		4	3	5	721							
Yoruba and related		12	15	10	2,060							
Countries bordering Benin		1	2	1	234							
Other countries		1	1	0	91							
Other ethnic group		1	1	1	118							
Total		100	100	100	17,373							

Examining Consensual Poverty in Benin

Ascertaining “enforced lack” of socially perceived essentials of life/necessities

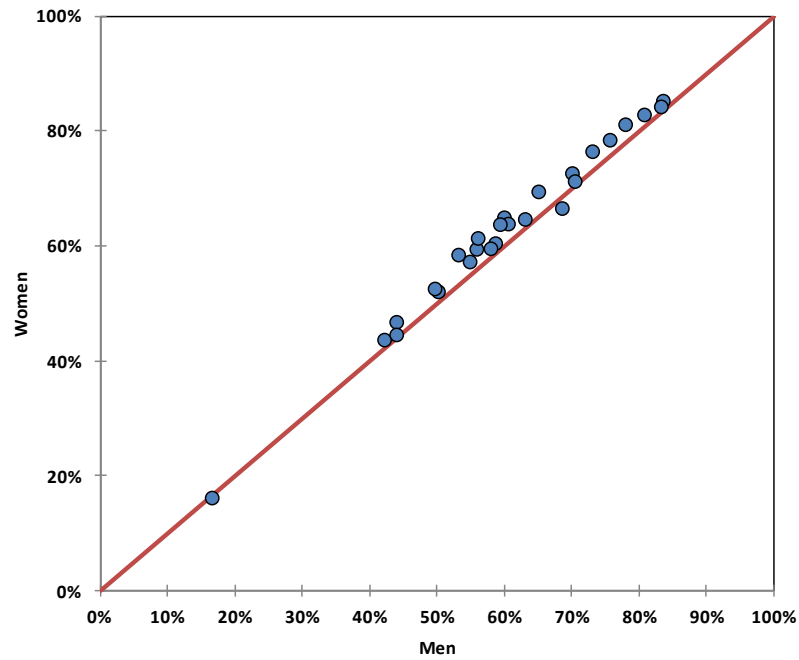


Perception of Essential Items in Benin, 2006 <i>"Do you regard as essential, necessary or not that the following items are part of the minimal/basic needs in order to have adequate life condition?"</i>	Essential (%)	Yes, rather necessary (%)	No (%)	Total (%)
Need to have access to drinking water	84	15	0	100
Need to take care of oneself when sick	84	16	0	100
Need to have steady work	82	18	1	100
Need to be able to send children to school	79	20	1	100
Need to have access to electricity	77	22	2	100
Need to have three meals per day	74	24	2	100
Need to have a house	71	24	5	100
Need to have a radio	71	28	1	100
Need to have mode of transportation	68	30	2	100
Need to take of own body (soap, barber etc.)	67	32	1	100
Need to have a good meal on Sundays and holidays	64	33	4	100
Need to have personal care products	62	36	2	100
Need to have tables and beds	62	36	2	100
Need to have several sets of clothing	61	36	2	100
Need to have a spacious house	59	37	4	100
Need to be able to buy a television	59	38	4	100
Need to have several sets of shoes	58	38	4	100
Need to have meat or fish every day	57	36	7	100
Need to be able to take a taxi	56	42	2	100
Need to have birth control	55	37	8	100
Need to have cereals or food made from roots or tubers every	51	37	12	100
Need to take vacation	51	43	6	100
Need to be able to take the bus	45	46	9	100
Need to be able to buy presents when needed	44	51	5	100
Need to have vegetables every day	43	40	17	100
Need to work day and night	17	24	60	100

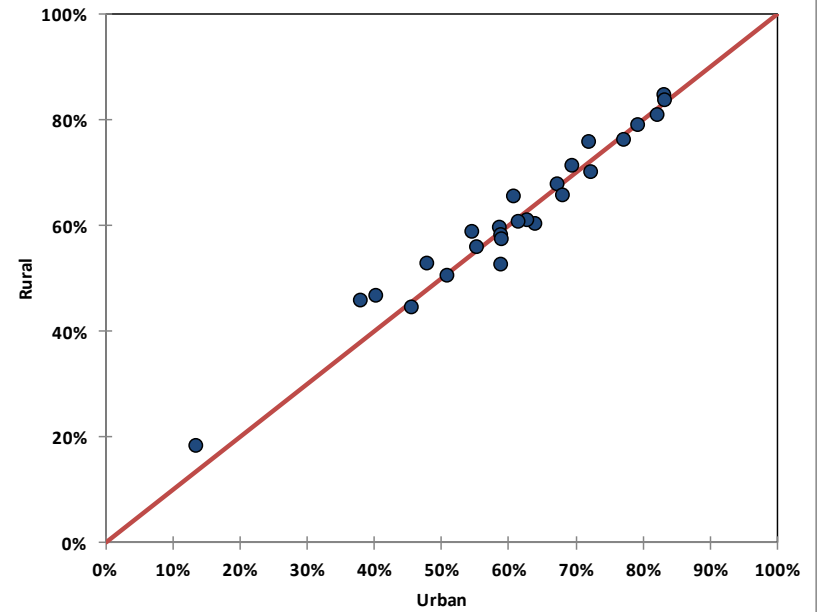
Source: weighted data, Benin 2006 DHS; n=17,511.

Reflecting Consensus

Perceptions of Necessities - by Gender



Perception of Necessities - by Place of Residence



(%) Respondents believing item “essential” .	Place of residence		Age		Sex		Religion			Ethnicity			Ever attended school			Marital status			
	Urban	Rural	16-24	65+	Male	Female	Traditional (Vodoun)	Islam	Catholic	Adja and related	Fon and related	Yoruba and related	No	Yes	Never married	Married	Live together	Widowed	Divorced
Access to drinking water	83	85	84	83	84	85	83	79	85	79	88	86	84	85	84	84	89	86	83
Take care of oneself when sick	83	84	83	83	83	84	82	80	85	77	87	86	84	84	81	84	85	85	81
Have steady work	82	81	82	78	81	83	80	75	84	75	87	85	81	83	81	82	82	82	80
Be able to send children to school	79	79	80	77	78	81	78	71	81	76	84	82	78	81	77	80	83	80	75
Have access to electricity	77	77	78	74	76	79	77	70	78	75	82	79	76	79	77	77	71	77	75
Have three meals per day	72	76	74	73	73	77	77	64	75	72	80	72	76	73	70	75	64	78	74
Have a house	72	70	71	70	70	73	69	65	74	66	77	70	70	73	71	71	69	74	72
Have a radio	69	72	71	68	70	71	72	62	72	68	76	70	70	73	69	71	67	69	69
Have mode of transportation	67	68	69	64	69	67	67	63	69	63	71	68	66	70	66	69	65	63	61
Take of own body (soap, barber etc.)	68	66	68	66	65	70	65	61	69	65	71	66	66	69	66	67	63	70	66
Have a good meal on Sundays and holidays	61	66	61	65	63	65	65	60	63	59	66	62	66	61	59	64	62	67	62
Have personal care products	64	61	63	58	60	65	61	54	65	62	67	60	60	65	61	62	58	64	63
Have tables and beds (furniture)	63	61	64	59	61	64	62	53	64	64	66	62	60	65	61	62	58	61	57
Have several sets of clothing	61	61	63	59	59	64	63	51	63	63	66	59	60	63	61	61	50	65	61
Have a spacious house	59	60	60	59	59	61	61	53	61	61	62	53	60	59	57	60	55	60	57
Be able to buy a television	59	59	61	54	58	60	60	50	61	61	64	58	56	62	60	59	59	56	54
Have meat or fish every day	54	59	57	58	56	60	60	50	57	60	61	52	59	56	54	57	48	61	56
Have several sets of shoes	59	58	60	56	56	61	61	48	60	60	64	56	57	60	58	58	43	61	58
Be able to take a taxi	55	56	54	57	55	57	55	47	58	52	59	57	55	57	54	56	51	58	57
Have birth control	59	53	58	50	53	59	52	47	60	57	60	52	52	60	58	55	58	54	53
Have cereals or food made from roots or tubers every	48	53	52	51	50	52	53	47	50	52	53	44	53	48	46	51	48	55	53
Take a vacation	51	51	53	48	50	53	52	43	53	52	56	51	49	53	51	51	43	50	44
Be able to take the bus	45	45	46	45	44	47	47	37	46	47	48	45	45	46	44	45	43	46	46
Have vegetables every day	38	46	42	44	42	44	45	42	41	46	43	36	46	39	40	43	40	48	43
Be able to buy presents when needed	40	47	43	44	44	45	50	38	44	49	46	41	45	43	40	45	38	44	41
Work day and night	13	19	16	16	17	16	21	18	14	24	13	16	18	14	14	17	23	16	14

(%) Respondents believing item “essential”	Wealth index		Evaluation of income level of household		Current financial situation of family				Stability of family income			
	Poorest 20	Richest 20	Good	Difficult	Can save reasonable amount	Can save a little amount	Neither save nor use up savings	Use some savings	Goes into debt	Very unstable	More or less stable	Stable
Have access to drinking water	85	83	82	85	83	80	82	85	88	86	82	77
Take care of oneself when sick	83	83	81	84	82	80	82	85	87	85	82	79
Have steady work	78	84	79	83	80	81	79	82	85	83	79	80
Be able to send children to school	77	81	78	81	75	75	78	80	83	81	77	76
Have access to electricity	73	79	75	78	76	70	75	78	81	79	73	69
Have three meals per day	77	70	73	78	68	68	72	76	79	77	69	70
Have a house	69	74	70	72	66	70	70	69	75	73	69	69
Have a radio	70	71	67	73	68	65	69	72	75	73	67	67
Have mode of transportation	67	70	65	69	66	65	66	67	72	69	66	65
Take of own body (soap, barber etc.)	65	70	66	69	58	60	65	69	72	70	62	64
Have a good meal on Sundays and holidays	69	58	67	66	51	57	62	66	67	67	59	59
Have tables and beds (furniture)	60	67	65	64	59	55	60	64	66	65	57	60
Have personal care products	61	67	64	64	54	56	60	64	66	65	56	60
Have several sets of clothing	61	64	64	64	59	56	58	63	66	65	55	57
Have a spacious house	61	60	66	62	51	52	58	60	65	63	53	58
Be able to buy a television	54	64	57	61	55	55	57	58	63	61	55	57
Have several sets of shoes	57	62	60	61	52	53	55	60	63	62	52	54
Have meat or fish every day	59	55	59	60	50	51	55	62	60	60	53	54
Have birth control	50	63	61	56	46	49	56	54	59	57	52	57
Be able to take a taxi	57	55	50	60	49	49	52	58	62	58	52	51
Take vacation	48	54	53	54	50	47	49	51	55	53	46	52
Have cereals or food made from roots or tubers every	56	46	50	54	44	42	49	56	54	55	44	47
Be able to take the bus	45	46	43	49	42	40	42	46	51	47	42	42
Be able to buy presents when needed	47	39	45	48	40	40	45	41	49	47	40	43
Have vegetables every day	48	36	45	45	37	35	43	44	46	45	38	41
Work day and night	20	11	16	16	15	16	17	16	17	17	16	17

Establishing an 'enforced lack'...

Respondent's Needs Satisfaction. -“Are you satisfied with how the minimal needs of your household are met in the following domains?”

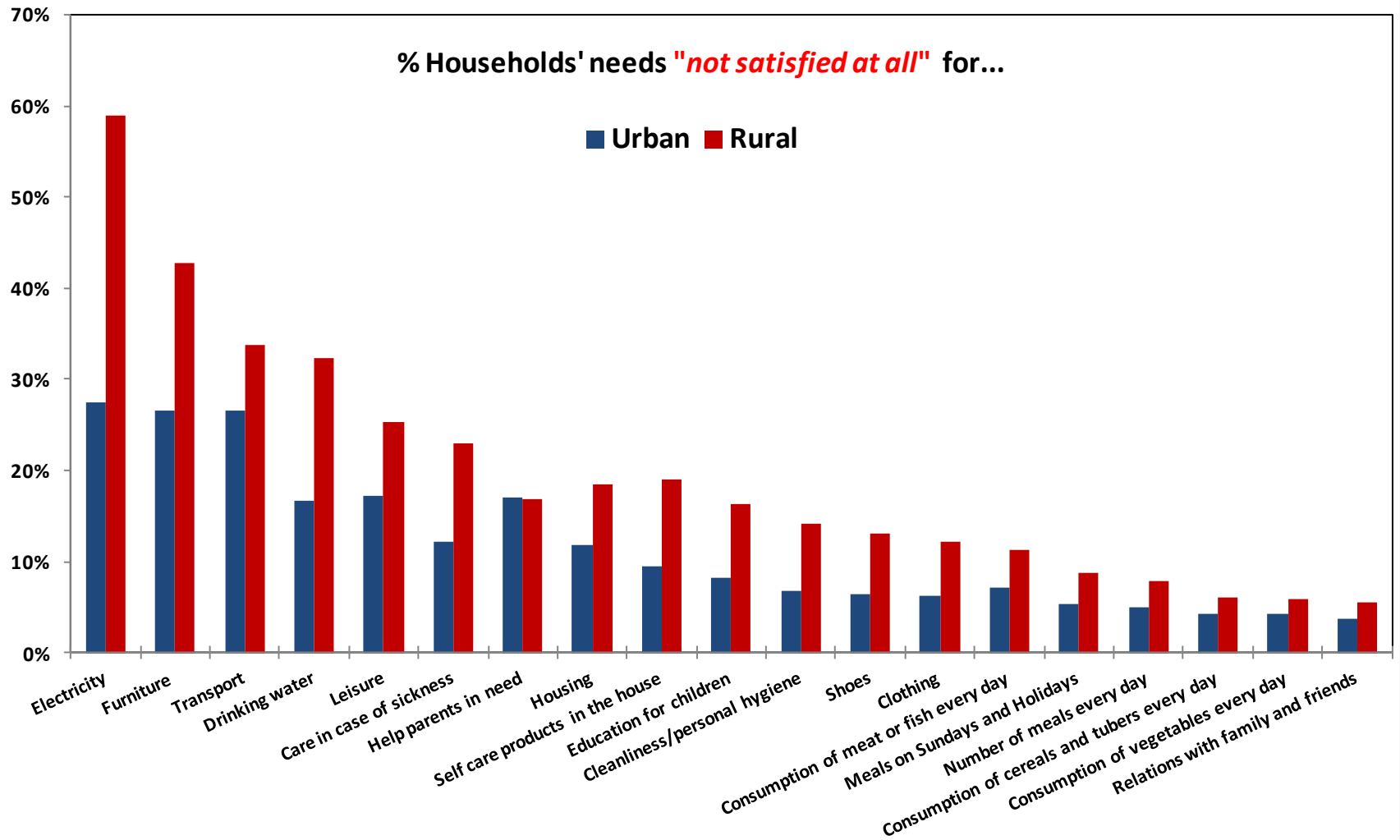
[Response categories : 1.Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. No, not really 4. **No, not at all]**

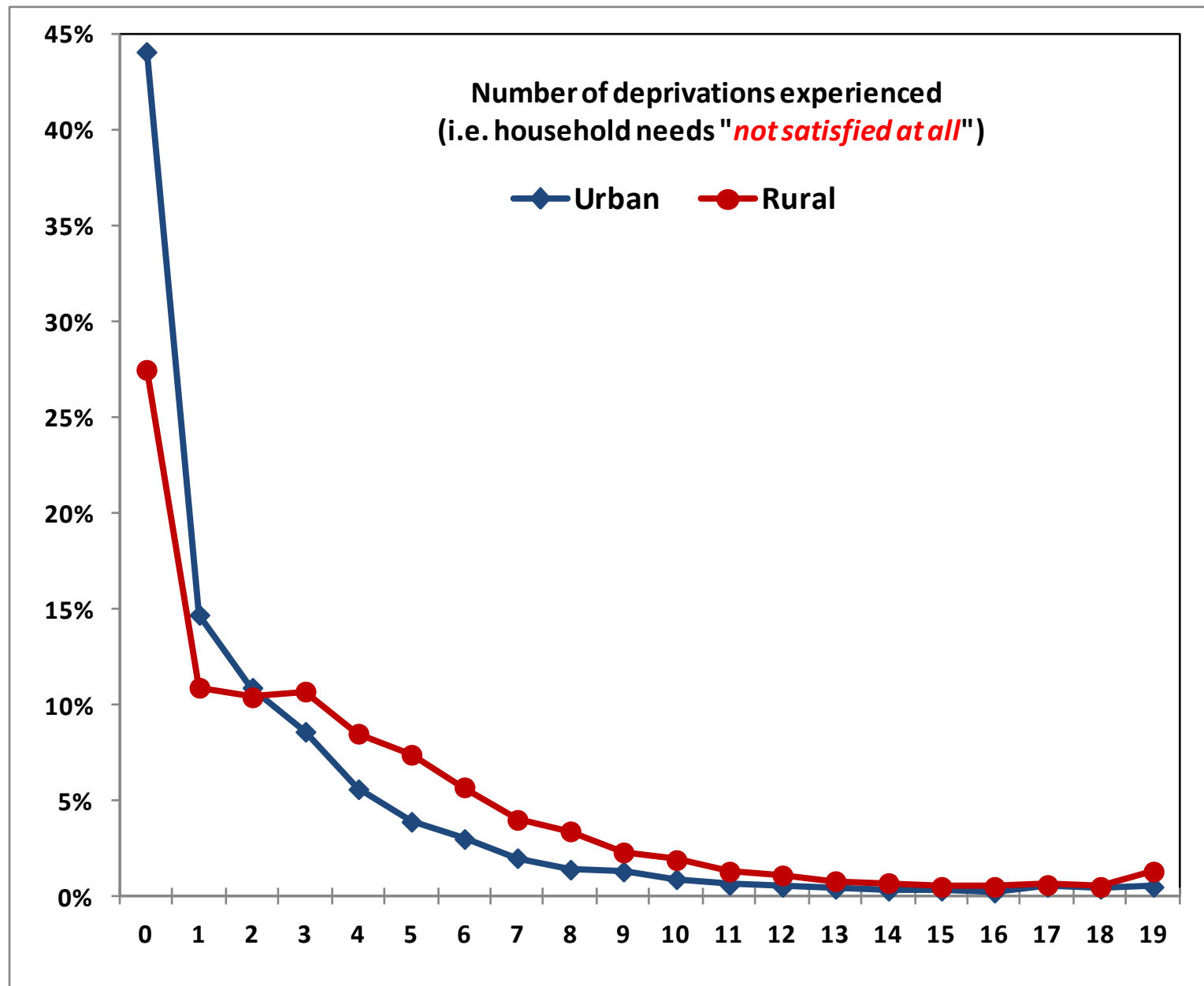
**% Responding
“**No, Not at all**”**

Satisfied with availability of electricity	46
Satisfied with furniture in the house	36
Satisfied with availability of transport	31
Satisfied with availability of drinking water	26
Satisfied with availability of leisure	22
Satisfied with care in case of sickness	19
Satisfied with help to parents in need	17
Satisfied with housing	16
Satisfied with self care products in the house	15
Satisfied with education for children	13
Satisfied with cleanliness / personal hygiene	11
Satisfied with shoes	10
Satisfied with clothing	10
Satisfied with consumption of meat or fish every day	10
Satisfied with meals on Sundays and Holidays	7
Satisfied with number of meals every day	7
Satisfied with consumption of cereals and tubers every day	5
Satisfied with consumption of vegetables every day	5
Satisfied with relations with family and friends	5

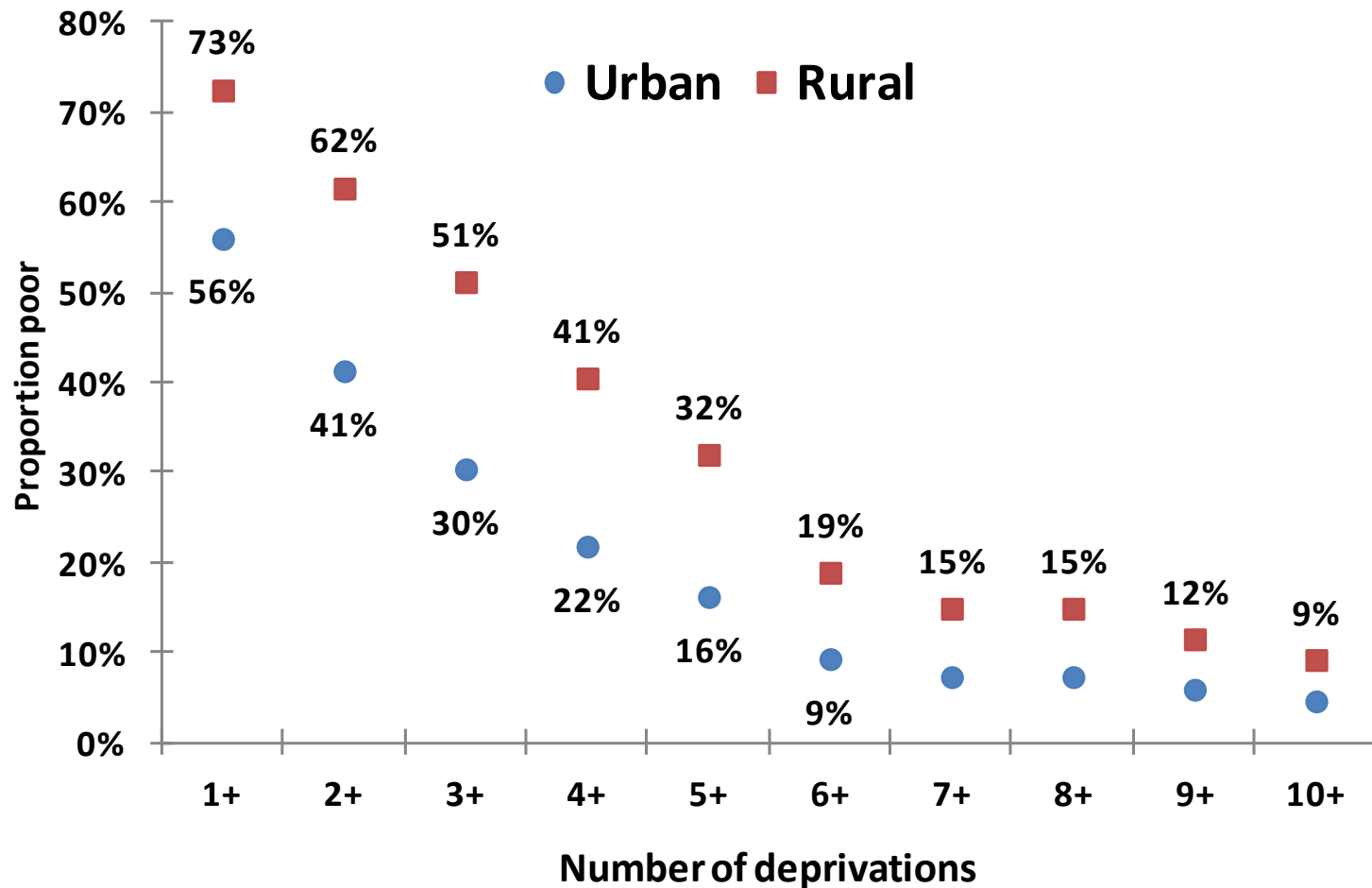
% Households' needs *"not satisfied at all"* for...

■ Urban ■ Rural





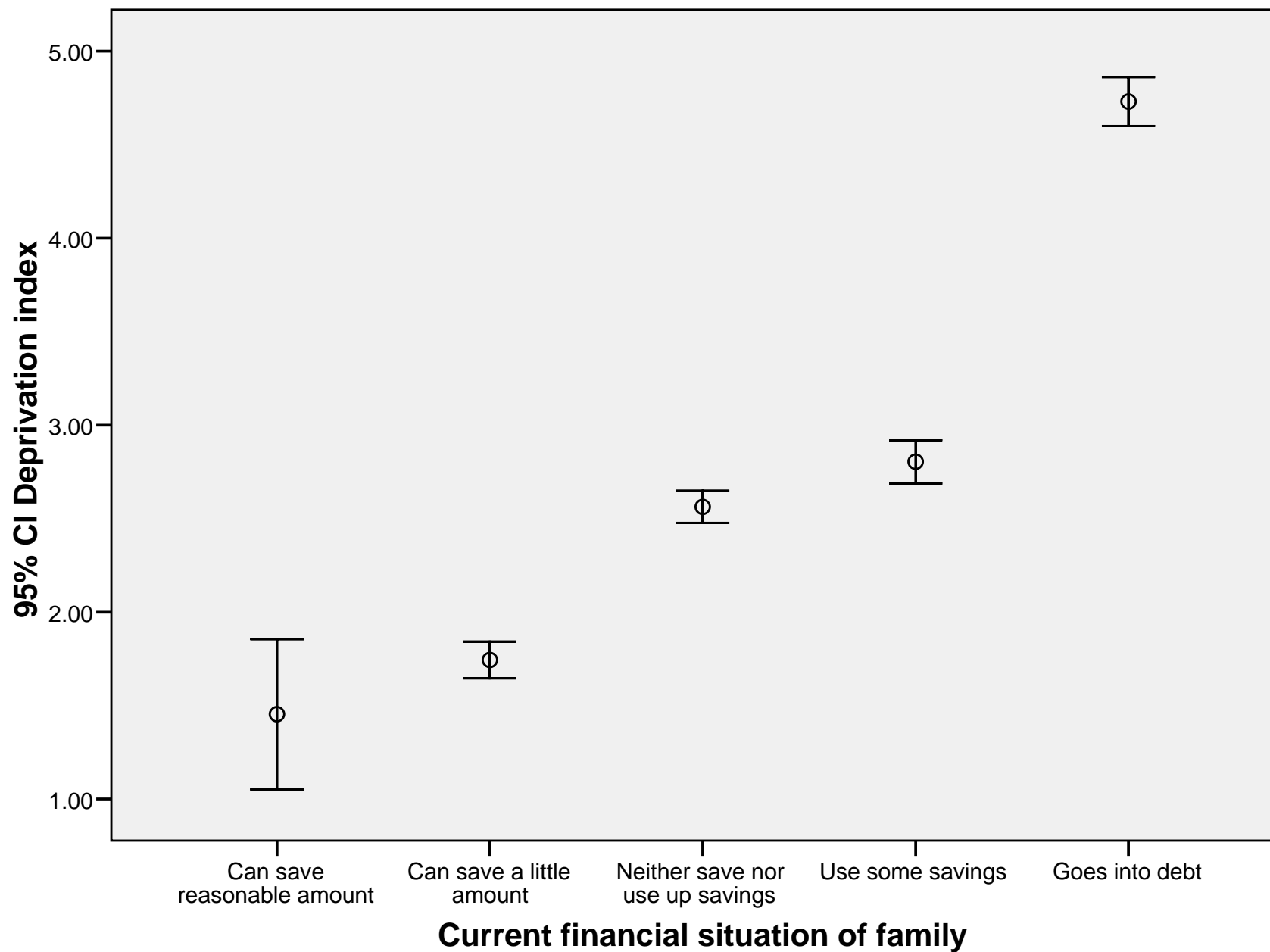
Poverty estimates based on different deprivation thresholds



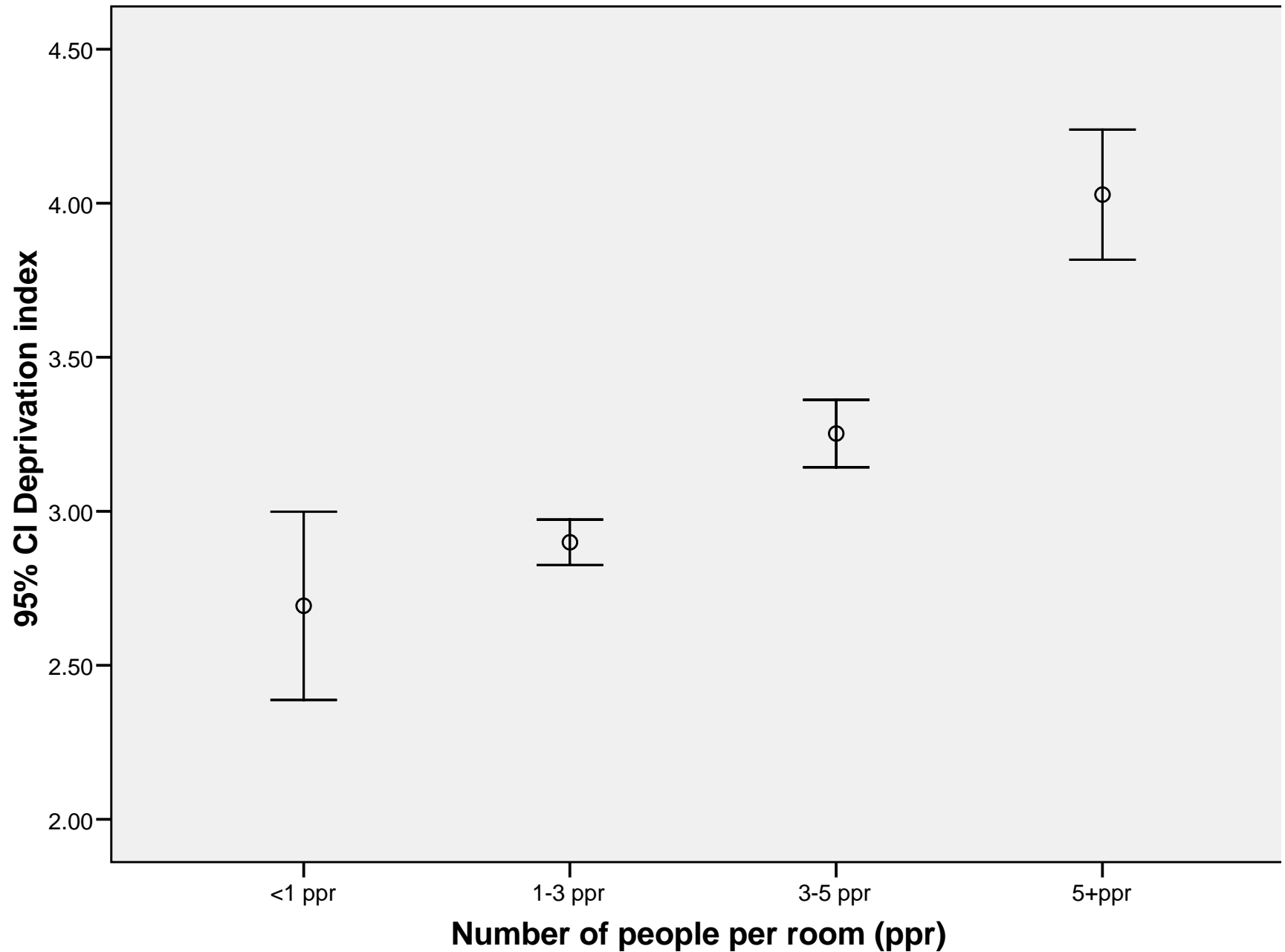
Establishing scale reliability and validity

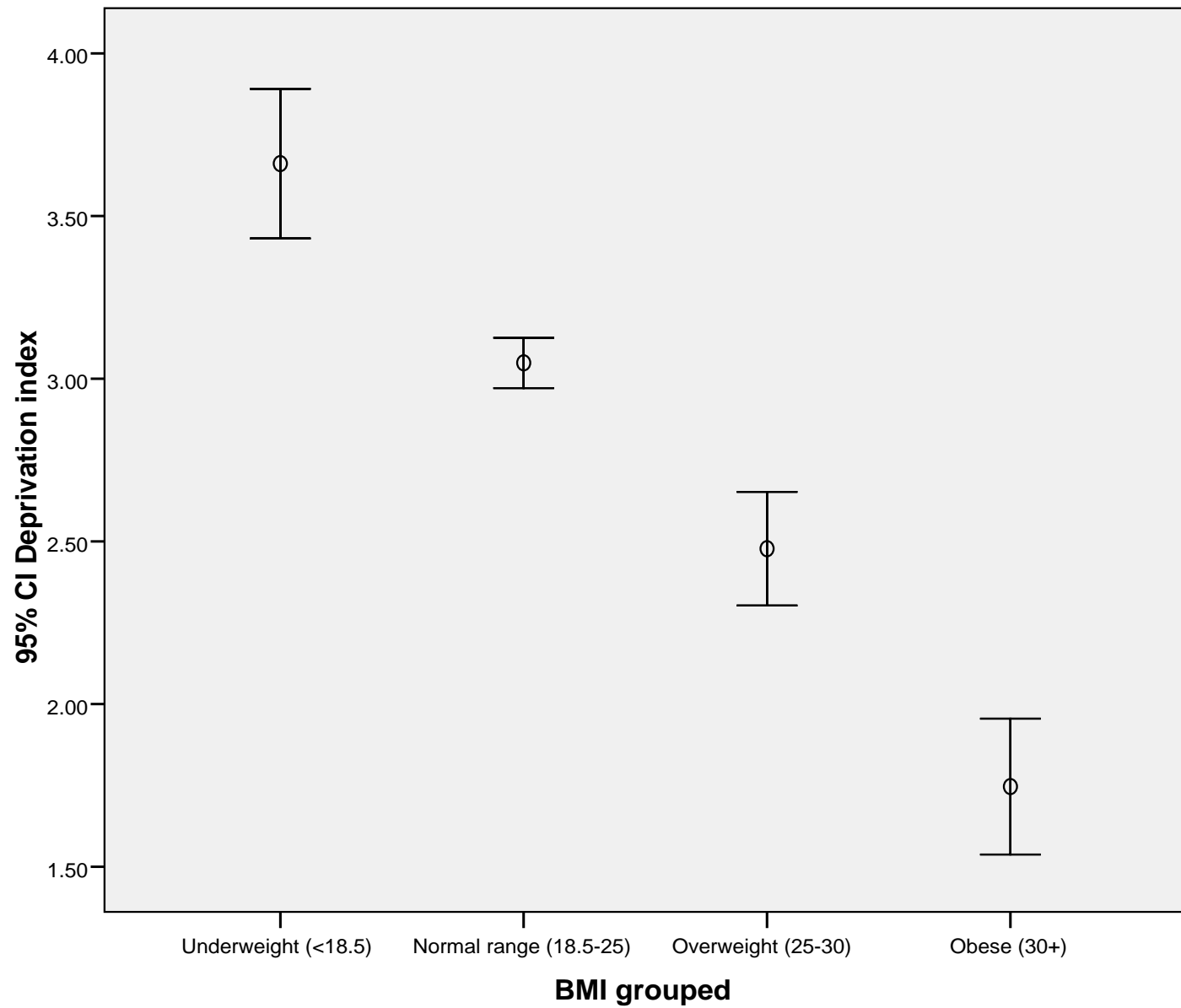
Scale reliability for 19-item scale: Chronbach's Alpha = **0.894**

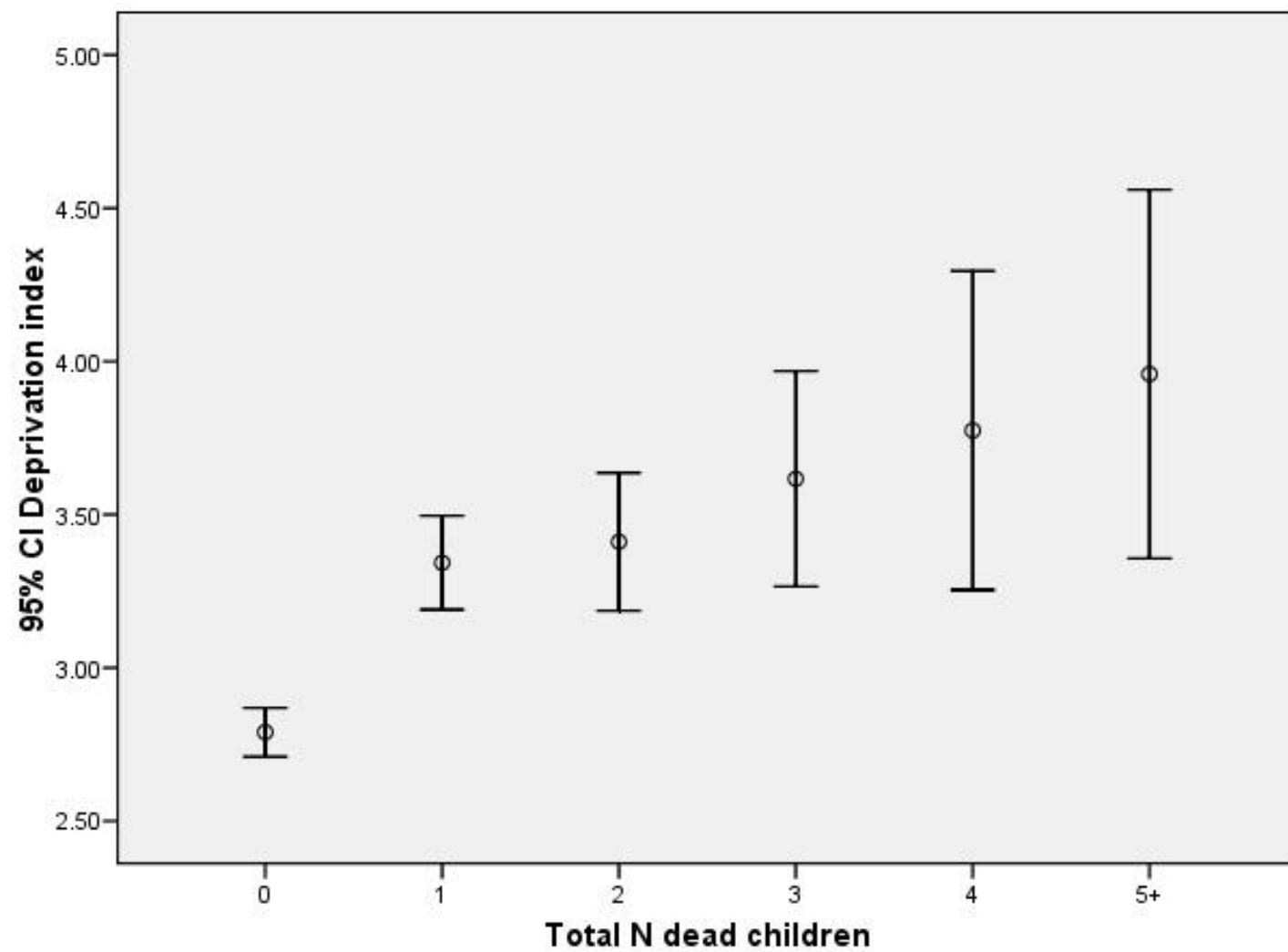
Mean Deprivation Score and 95 Confidence Intervals by Families' Financial Situation, Benin 2006.



**Mean Deprivation Score and 95 Confidence Intervals by
Number of People per Room (overcrowding), Benin 2006**







Conclusions

- Method developed for use in rich countries works effectively in low-income Benin
- Slight adaptations to list of items allow for a public definition of poverty
- Multiple deprivation in Benin associated with other objective measures of poverty – overcrowding, nutritional status, child mortality
- Great potential for using similar modules in future DHS/MICS/LSMS/national household surveys